



Louisiana Budget Project

PROVIDING INDEPENDENT,  
NONPARTISAN research and analysis  
of Louisiana fiscal issues and their  
impact on low and moderate  
income residents.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **TOBACCO TAX COALITION TRUMPS GOVERNOR 4-CENT EXTENSION ATTACHED TO TOPS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**

(Baton Rouge – June 21, 2011) The House has revived a proposal to renew a 4-cent cigarette tax by amending it to a proposed constitutional amendment that is part of the governor’s legislative package to redirect money to TOPS college scholarships. If the Senate accepts this change, this maneuver, not subject to gubernatorial veto, will allow Louisianans to vote on the renewal this fall.

“Congratulations to Andrew Muhl, the American Cancer Society, Rep. Harold Ritchie, and the House leadership on devising a strategy to allow the people of Louisiana the opportunity to vote on this highly popular tax,” says Edward Ashworth, director of the Louisiana Budget Project. “Their unwavering dedication to making Louisiana healthier and fiscally responsible is an example of the leadership needed to make better choices for our state.”

The Baton Rouge-based Louisiana Budget Project provides independent research and analysis of Louisiana fiscal issues and their impact on low and moderate income residents.

For a full report on exemptions and more information on LBP, visit [www.labudget.org](http://www.labudget.org).

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